

Media Contacts:
Geoff Tyree, DOE
(509) 376-4171, Geoffrey.Tyree@rl.doe.gov

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Hanford Projects Receive Sustainability Awards

RICHLAND, WASH. – Hanford's Department of Energy offices and their contractors received special recognition Tuesday for their part in promoting sustainability.

The Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management in Washington D.C. selected 10 Hanford Site projects to be awarded for excellence in encouraging sustainability, conserving resources, and exemplifying the ideals set forth by Executive Order 13514. The Order was signed by President Barack Obama on October 5, 2009, and challenged federal agencies to make plans and lead by example in "environmental, energy, and economic performance."

"As the largest consumer of energy in the U.S. economy, the Federal government can and should lead by example when it comes to creating innovative ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, conserve water, reduce waste, and use environmentally-responsible products and technologies," said President Obama.

Some of these challenges included:

- Increasing energy efficiency
- Measuring, reporting and reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Conserving and protecting water resources
- Eliminating waste, recycling, and preventing pollution
- Leveraging agency acquisition to foster markets for sustainable technologies and environmentally preferable materials, products and services
- Designing, constructing, maintaining, and operating high performance sustainable buildings in sustainable locations
- Strengthening the vitality and livability of communities in which Federal facilities are located; and
- Informing federal employees about and involving them in achieving these goals

The Department of Energy's Office of River Protection, the Richland Operations Office and their respective contractors have embraced this vision and implemented programs and projects that resulted in measurable accomplishments in each of these areas.

LIST OF AWARDS:

Best in Class

Washington River Protection Solutions

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design in New Facilities

New facilities supporting the 222-S Laboratory complex will require less energy and water and reduce negative impacts to the environment.

Best in Class

CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company

SAM940 Upgrades

Upgrades to a piece of equipment used to identify isotopes significantly streamlined operations, saved money and reduced waste disposal costs.

Best in Class

CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company

Maintenance and Storage Facility Building Modifications

Maintenance and storage facility building modifications have conserved more than three million gallons of water a year. The cumulative water savings is greater than six million gallons to date and energy consumption is also reduced.

Best in Class

Mission Support Alliance

Data Center Energy and Equipment Reduction

Moving to an enterprise model based on VMWare® server virtualization resulted in cost savings of approximately 50% and increased operational efficiencies.

Honorable Mention

CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company

Pump and Treat Goes Wireless

For the first time at any pump-and-treat facility on the Hanford Site, extraction wells are communicating flow rates, water levels, and other information wirelessly to a groundwater treatment building.

Honorable Mention

CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company

Super Dump Trucks

This past year, ergonomics, safety and efficiency improved with the use of super dump trucks which increase payload capacity to a maximum of 25 tons.

Honorable Mention

Mission Support Alliance

Rattlesnake Mountain Combined Community Communications Facility

The project goals were to find a solution that would support emergency service needs of the community while protecting cultural and biological resources and reducing the impact of people and facilities on Rattlesnake Mountain.

Honorable Mention

Mission Support Alliance

Use of Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMax)

The wireless network utilized 21st Century technology to provide high speed wireless coverage to approximately 335 square miles of the Hanford Site.

Honorable Mention

Mission Support Alliance

Network in a Box

Approximately 300 trailers were quickly and cost-effectively equipped with mobile networking capabilities that required less installation time and cost than using fixed infrastructure.

Honorable Mention

Mission Support Alliance

Increased Use of Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFV)

Hanford increased the AFV inventory from 143 in 2005 to 634 in 2010 which exceed the mandated 75 percent requirement.